



Office of Senator James I. Manning, Jr.

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Oregon Senate Votes to Establish New Respectful Workplace Resource for Oregon Businesses

Senate Bill 851 directs the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries to prepare a model respectful workplace policy that local employers may adopt

SALEM, Ore - Today, the Oregon Senate voted to provide Oregon businesses with a new tool to improve employee performance and retention: a model respectful workplace policy. [Senate Bill 851](#) directs the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to prepare a model respectful workplace policy that Oregon employers may adopt.

Workplace bullying and discrimination can have [serious mental and physical health impacts](#) on employees. It can also reduce productivity, decrease retention, and increase employer health costs. Developing a respectful workplace policy is an important tool for employers who want to prevent workplace bullying, but some Oregon businesses may face challenges in developing such policies.

This is especially relevant as Oregon businesses are grappling with challenges related to hiring and retention. SB 851 will develop a model policy to support Oregon employers in establishing respectful workplaces.

“Everyone should feel safe and respected at work, period. Workplace bullying and harassment harms employees and businesses alike,” **said chief sponsor of the bill Senator James I. Manning Jr. (D - Portland)**. “Establishing a commonsense, respectful workplace policy will protect Oregonians’ mental and physical health and help our local businesses attract and retain crucial talent.”

Providing more protections for Oregon’s workforce is a key pillar of Oregon Senate Democrats [2023 Oregon Works Agenda](#).

SB 851 now heads to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

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